Discontinuation of centrally assisted projects

†*102. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government are going to discontinue the projects being implemented with the Central assistance and those being run by the Central Government.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what would its likely impact on development *of* the country;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the targets fixed by Government have not been achieved, so far; and

(e) the number of projects which have not been completed as per its time schedule and budget provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) The Planning Commission has undertaken a review of the existing schemes (Both Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes) and subjected them to Zero-based Budgeting, retaining only those schemes in the Tenth Plan that are demonstrably essential. The exercise will help in rationalizing the schemes by making them more focused and streamline the delivery system to ensure that benefits reach the target group. Monitoring of various schemes vis-a-vis their targets is the responsibility of the concerned Ministry/Department and the data on this is not being maintained centrally in the Planning Commission. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation also regularly monitors the implementation of projects over Rs. 20 Crore each.

Aid to new Afghan regime

*103.DR. KARAN SINGH:

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned a $ 200 million aid to the new Afghan regime;

(b) if so, on what terms and conditions; and

(c) what other steps have been taken to establish economic, trade and diplomatic relations with the new regime?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.